

Libya hopeful of OAU support

CAIRO (AFP) — Libyan Foreign Secretary Omar Al Muntasir said Tuesday he was hopeful that the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit would support Libya in its dispute with the West over the Lockerbie bombing. "We are hopeful that the OAU will support us with a resolution calling for a solution of the dispute," Mr. Muntasir told AFP. He said he also hoped for "a positive reaction" from the United States to Libya's offer to hand over to black American leader Jesse Jackson two Libyan suspects indicted in the West for the December 1988 bombing of a Pan Am passenger plane over Lockerbie, Scotland, which claimed 270 lives. He said two Libyan ambassadors had discussed the 1989 bombing of a French airliner in which Libya is also accused of involvement, with French President Francois Mitterrand's advisor Bruno Delay on the sidelines of the OAU summit in Cairo. Mr. Delay is a guest at the summit, due to end Wednesday. "We want a French judge to come to Tripoli and conter with the Libyan judge handling the case," he said. "Unfortunately the first time the French judge came he arrived aboard a battleship and that's why we did not allow him in," Mr. Muntasir said. "We are now trying to convince him to come back with civilian transportation."

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EC sends JD 21.3m to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — European Community (EC) delegate to Jordan Renato Batti Tuesday announced an EC decision to transfer to the Jordanian treasury a sum of JD 21.3 million, which is part of a JD 44 million financial assistance to the Kingdom. Mr. Batti, who made the announcement at a meeting with acting Finance Minister Walid Asfour, said the agreement on financial aid was signed last September. Mr. Asfour voiced Jordan's appreciation to the EC for its continued economic assistance to Jordan.

EC official due July 4

AMMAN (J.T.) — European Commission Vice-President and Commissioner for Development and Cooperation Manual Marin, will visit Jordan July 4-7, 1993. He will be accompanied by Mr. Eberhard Rhein, director, directorate general for external economic affairs, and Mr. Georges Ponette, a senior aide to Mr. Marin. During his visit Mr. Marin will hold talks with the prime minister, ministers, the speaker of the Lower House of Parliament and the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of both Houses.

Iran threatens 'preemptive' strikes

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran on Tuesday threatened to launch "preemptive" strikes against Iranian rebels based in Iraq. Hassan Rowhani, secretary of Iran's National Security Council, said Tehran could launch preemptive strikes on the Mujahedeen rebels rather than wait to be attacked, the official IRNA news agency said. Mr. Rowhani gave no other details about the policy change. The Mujahedeen frequently launch guerrilla attacks on Iranian oil industry and other targets from bases in Iraq. Iran has retaliated with air strikes on these bases, the last of which was May 25.

Iraqi oil talks to resume next week

GENEVA (R) — High-level talks between the United Nations and Iraq over Iraqi oil sales will resume next week in New York, a U.N. spokeswoman said Tuesday. She said U.N. Security-General Boutros Ghali was "confident" an alleged Iraqi plot to assassinate former U.S. President George Bush and a retaliatory U.S. missile attack on Baghdad "will not constitute an obstacle to the progress of the negotiations."

Rabin arrives in the Netherlands

THE HAGUE (AFP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin arrived here Tuesday for talks with Dutch leaders expected to focus on ties between his country and the European Community (EC), having earlier called for more EC cash for Palestinian refugees.

FAO official arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — A senior official from the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) arrived in Amman Tuesday for talks with Jordanian officials on forestry and pasture affairs. Dr. M.K. Muthoo, director, Forestry Operations, is scheduled to meet senior officials at the ministries of planning and agriculture and the resident U.N. representative in Amman, Osman Hashem. At a dinner hosted by M.M. Pant, a senior FAO official based in Amman, Dr. Muthoo promised Agriculture Minister Marwan Kamal that FAO fully supported Jordan's economic reform programme and would continue to support the Kingdom.

Russia to veto lifting of Bosnia embargo

MOSCOW (R) — Russia will veto any United Nations attempt to lift an embargo on military supplies to Bosnian Muslims, a senior official said Tuesday. Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoly Adamishin told reporters in the parliament building that Russian representatives in the United Nations had been instructed to vote against any resolution to lift the embargo (see Bosnia story on page 8).

Tension runs high in Baghdad amid fears of new attack

Iraq tells U.S. it has right to retaliate; nervous Iraqis fire at own plane

Combined agency dispatches

ANTI-AIRCRAFT fire erupted over Baghdad Tuesday when gunners, fearing the United States was striking again after last weekend's air raid, mistakenly shot at an Iraqi plane.

A local radio station said the plane was misidentified as an American fighter. It was not known if it was hit.

"When the other anti-aircraft gunners heard the firing they joined in," said a spokesman at Dar Al Salam (House of Peace) radio, run by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's son, Uday.

The incident followed a U.S. cruise missile attack on Iraq's intelligence headquarters Sunday in retaliation for an alleged plot to kill former President George Bush during his triumphal visit to Kuwait in April.

Mr. Bush commanded the U.S.-led alliance that drove Iraqi troops from Kuwait in February 1991.

Tuesday's firing highlighted the tension among Iraqis who, embittered by the deaths of at least eight civilians in the latest raid, fear the Americans might strike Baghdad again.

"Tell me when they are going to attack," one Iraqi begged a Westerner.

Official newspapers said the United States would attack again on the pretext of Iraq's refusal to let the United Nations install monitoring cameras at missile test sites.

"There's no change" in Baghdad's position regarding the request made on June 4, according to Jiaokuo Yitiao, representing the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) on disarming Iraq.

The message said the United States bore complete responsibility for the consequences of the crimes against the people in Iraq, however, say the Iraqis are taking



An Iraqi soldier takes a sight during desert military exercises following Sunday's American missile strike on Baghdad (AFP photo)

and throughout the world, according to INA.

The attack against the Iraqi intelligence services headquarters is a "violation of the United Nations Charter and a terrorist act aimed at terrorizing the Iraqis and their leaders."

The agency also reported what it said was a U.S. message given by Ms. Albright to Mr. Hammoud.

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The message said the United States bore complete responsibility for the consequences of the crimes against the people in Iraq, according to INA.

It also warned Iraq against any action endangering American lives and interests or those of their allies in the world, INA said.

The Los Angeles Times said U.S. intelligence concluded that Saddam Hussein ordered the attempt to assassinate Mr. Bush.

The Times quoted unidentified senior government officials as saying the evidence of President Saddam's involvement was circumstantial but compelling.

"It is inconceivable that an operation like this, conducted by Iraqi intelligence, could have been carried out without Saddam Hussein ordering it," one senior official said.

A Clinton administration official, speaking on condition of

anonymity, told the Associated Press on Monday night that the government had no specific evidence that the plot was ordered by President Saddam himself.

But the official said U.S. analysts assumed that nothing of that nature could be launched in so tightly controlled a country without the president's approval.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher said an entire wing of the walled Iraqi intelligence compound had been destroyed in the U.S. raid.

"We took out the wing of it that we think has the main computers in it, has the office of the head of the operation," Mr. Christopher said in an interview.

(Continued on page 10)

Federal rule ordered for Punjab

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Pakistan's parliament gave Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif a mandate Tuesday to clamp federal rule in its troubled home province of Punjab, amid a protest walkout by the opposition. The government moved an emergency resolution at a special joint session of the two houses of parliament after a second dissolution of the Punjab assembly by a hostile provincial governor just 24 hours previously. The resolution called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to issue the necessary proclamation for the assumption of powers of the provincial administration by the federal government. Under the constitution, the president is obliged to obey. Carried by 145 votes to seven, the resolution enables Islamabad to take over "all powers exercisable by both the governor and the government of Punjab." It also called for replacement of the provincial governor, Chaudhary Altaf Hussain, who twice dissolved the Punjab assembly in a month since his appointment by the president, the second time in defiance of a court ruling. Mr. Hussain was nominated after Mr. Ishaq Khan backed by former Premier Benazir Bhutto, sacked Mr. Sharif and dissolved the National Assembly, the lower house of parliament, on April 18, amid a power struggle with the premier.

Price: 150 Fils

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1993 MUHARRAM 10, 1414

Clinton says Iraq definitely behind plot; radar attacked

PRESIDENT CLINTON Tuesday said evidence clearly indicates the Iraqi government ordered the assassination attempt against former President George Bush.

Speaking just after Pentagon reports of a U.S. plane firing on an Iraqi anti-aircraft installation, Mr. Clinton said the possibility of improved relations with Baghdad were "very difficult to conceive" if Saddam Hussein "persists in his stubborn refusal" to heed international law.

Mr. Clinton shrugged off a suggestion that Tuesday's targeting of the U.S. plane by Iraqi radar was linked to Baghdad's vow to retaliate for the weekend missile strike.

The Pentagon said a U.S. F-4G wild Weasel immediately fired an anti-radar missile at the Iraqi installation.

"I wouldn't read too much into it," Mr. Clinton said.

The president said U.S. pilots in the region are authorized to fire at radar sites if they are targeted, and noted there had been several similar incidents since the end of the Gulf war.

The last such incident was in April.

Mr. Clinton refused to say outright that the United States had evidence President Saddam directly ordered the assassination of Mr. Bush.

"The battery was not opened. This unwarranted act of aggression offers new proof of the U.S. policy of aggression against Iraq," the statement said.

The Iraqi statement repeated Baghdad's stand that the "no-fly zone, set up in southern Iraq after the Gulf war, was illegal.

"The best possible target was the target of the intelligence operation... where in all probability the operation was planned," Mr. Clinton said. He said the strike, using 23 Tomahawk cruise missiles, "sends the appropriate message given the facts of this case."

Iraq said meanwhile U.S. fighter planes attacked an unactivated anti-aircraft battery in southern Iraq and a soldier was wounded in the raid.

"Two U.S. F-15 planes committed a cowardly act of aggression and provocation at 6:05 p.m. today," the foreign affairs ministry said in a statement.

It said the planes launched an air-to-surface missile from an eight-kilometre altitude against an anti-aircraft battery in Basra, wounding a soldier.

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The Iraqi statement repeated Baghdad's stand that the "no-fly zone, set up in southern Iraq after the Gulf war, was illegal.

"All we know about the case is what we heard on the media. Until now the American authorities have not officially informed us about this operation, its details, the names of people charged," Lieutenant General Bashir told reporters. He was in Cairo to attend an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit.

"The names (given) are not known to us. The sketches are not known to us and to our various specialised networks," he said.

The Sudanese were among eight suspects arrested in New York last Thursday. Police said five were caught as they mixed with the Egyptian side and let everyone say all he wants to clear the atmosphere and mend fences in relations," Gen. Bashir said.

Gen. Bashir denied his country was exporting Islamic revolutionary ideas or supporting Muslim militants in Egypt, saying a wave of violence in Egypt was an internal affair.

"We confirm a second and third time that we have nothing to do with the developments taking place in Egypt. We are ready to sit and talk frankly with the Egyptian side and let everyone say all he wants to clear the atmosphere and mend fences in relations," Gen. Bashir said.

He said Khartoum was not training Egyptian militants, arguing that Egyptians learned all the skills they needed during their compulsory military service.

"The accusations against Sudan are part of the campaign to disfigure the image of Sudan. We are not exporting the revolution either to Egypt or to any other place," Gen. Bashir added.

The Sudanese head of state said Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was trying to broker a reconciliation between him and Gen. Bashir.

Mr. Bashir denied his country was exporting Islamic revolutionary ideas or supporting Muslim militants in Egypt, saying a wave of violence in Egypt was an internal affair.

The three-page letter recalled the role of Gen. Aideed, a former ambassador to India, in the 1991 overthrow of dictator Mohammad Siad Barre.

It said Gen. Aideed had worked for "peace, liberty and prosperity" in Somalia, without a government and plagued by clan fighting and famine since Mr. Siad Barre was toppled.

In his open letter to the summit, Gen. Aideed complained that the world press had dubbed him a warlord, which he said was "a term from Chinese history of no relevance to Africa."

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3 Israeli soldiers wounded

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A bomb exploded wounding two Israeli soldiers at dawn Tuesday in northern Israel while a third soldier was shot accidentally by colleagues in the occupied Gaza Strip, military sources said.

He said that one of the most difficult questions facing such a force was whether it could maintain contacts with its Israeli counterparts without being accused of collaboration.

Mr. Shahal said it was still premature to outline details about the force, like its size or exactly how the activities would be divided between Israel's army, police and the autonomy force.

Syria meanwhile accused Israel of intransigence at Middle East peace talks and said hopes for progress in the 10th round had collapsed.

In Damascus, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for the blast.

The group said in a statement it would "continue the armed fight against the Israeli enemy in occupied territories."

Meanwhile a soldier on foot patrol was wounded by another army patrol in Nusseirat camp on Monday night, the military sources said.

An investigation into the shooting was underway after "wrong orders" had been issued to the two patrols from the same unit.

Twenty-seven Palestinians and four Moroccans soldiers have been killed over the past 25 days.

The United Nations said at least two Somali gunmen were killed and several wounded when U.N. Cobra attack helicopters went to the rescue of Pakistanis under fire from rifles, machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades.

Witnesses said one Somali woman was killed by shrapnel that hit her in the head.

The latest U.N. casualties were inflicted when Pakistani U.N.

troops attempted to search a suspected ammunition cache on Monday owned by Osman Atto, financier and adviser to Aideed.

U.N. sources said the body of a second Pakistani killed in the raid was delivered to a hospital in Mogadishu overnight. Residents said they had seen a Pakistani corpse, stripped of its uniform, lying in the road where the attack took place.

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U.N. spokesman Major David

Stockwell said he did not know if the troops had succeeded in searching Mr. Atto's compound and left open the possibility that U.N. forces would make another attempt to search it as part of a continued crackdown.

Aideed appeals to OAU

Gen. Aideed has urged African leaders in Cairo for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit to demand an end to U.N. strikes against him.

In a letter to the summit obtained by AFP on Tuesday, Gen. Aideed accused the United Nations of endangering the lives of Somalian civilians.

"To arbitrarily wage war in Africa in the name of peace, with no reference even to the OAU, surely this can neither be tolerated nor allowed to become the pattern," the letter said.

It urged the OAU summit "to use its good offices to halt the

escalation of violence and will take steps to rule out any chance of its repetition."

The U.N. has ordered Gen. Aideed arrest for the June 5 killings of Pakistanis.

The warlord's followers vowed to kill 1,500 Americans after U.S.-led strikes against the warlord's headquarters.

Mr. Aideed, who became a naturalised U.S. citizen in 1991 after marrying an American, was the first of the eight Muslim fundamentalists to appear for a bail hearing.

Magistrate James Francis ordered Mr. Aideed, a New York cab driver, held without bail.

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Middle East News

China denies selling weapons to Mideast

BEIJING (Agencies) — China dismissed as "sheer fabrication" Tuesday U.S. allegations of continued arms sales to Pakistan, Syria and Iran in violation of a pledge made in 1991, Xinhua news agency reported.

Since late 1992, repeated reports have surfaced of sales of M-11 missiles to Pakistan despite China's promise one year earlier to the then-U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to abide by the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

M-9 missiles are also suspected to have been sold to other sensitive countries like Syria and Iran.

"This is sheer fabrication. China has long undertaken, to abide by the guidelines and parameters of MTCR. This position of China's remains unchanged," the official agency quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying of the allegations.

The MTC restricts sales of missiles with a range of more than 300 kilometres and a payload capacity of more than 400 kilograms.

The Chinese M-11 is a long-range surface-to-surface missile with a range of 1,000 kilometres and an 80-kilogramme payload capacity.

In late 1992, U.S. intelligence determined that China was openly selling missiles to Pakistan to take full advantage of the closing months of George Bush's administration, in the belief that the incoming Clinton administration would be less forgiving.

In May, the New York Times quoted unnamed U.S. officials as saying satellite photos of the Pakistani port Karachi showed Chinese shipments of M-11 missiles were continuing. The United States is concerned the missile

could be used to carry several nuclear bombs that Pakistan is believed to have developed.

No result in Israeli effort

Israel has gained no result in its effort to dissuade communist North Korea from selling medium-range missiles to Iran. South Korean officials said in Seoul Tuesday.

Quoting Israel's explanation of the two sides' meeting in Beijing last Friday, the officials said North Korea's delegation denied selling missiles to Iran, and instead asked Israel to buy one of its gold mines for \$1 billion.

The two sides parted without setting a date for further talks, said the officials, speaking on condition of anonymity.

North Korea was reported to have made the same request about the gold mine last October, when Eytan Bentur, a deputy director-general in Israel's foreign ministry, visited Pyongyang.

North Korea makes a medium-range missile called Rodong-1, or Scud-D, with a range of 1,000 kilometres. The missile can reach Israel from western Iran, and western Japan from North Korea.

Despite its denial, economically troubled North Korea has been reported earning an estimated \$1 billion a year from missile sales to Iran.

South Korean officials said Israel may hold further talks with North Korea, although no date has been set. Israel and North Korea have no formal diplomatic relations.

Israel has repeatedly warned that Iran's military build-up threatens not only Israel's security but also Western interests.

Analysts doubt missile attack will stop Iraqi intelligence activities

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. missile strike against Iraq may temporarily disrupt the Iraqi intelligence network but almost certainly will not stop it from using it for its purposes, U.S. analysts said Monday.

"It would not have seriously inhibited..." Iraq's intelligence capability, said Anthony Cordesman, a leading specialist in Iraqi and Middle Eastern military affairs.

Mr. Cordesman and other analysts said Iraq's intelligence network is pervasive, with many of roughly half a dozen intelligence services performing similar — sometimes overlapping — functions.

The compound that the U.S. missiles attacked contains the headquarters building of what the Defense Department calls the Iraqi intelligence service, or IIS. It is the largest of Iraq's intelligence agencies.

Michael Eisenstadt, a specialist in Iraqi military affairs at the Washington Institute for Near East policy, said the IIS is Iraq's main organizer and executor of "foreign operations."

He said it also has an internal security role shared by other organizations, including a military intelligence agency and a general security agency.

Mr. Eisenstadt and others took issue with President Clinton's statement Monday that the U.S. attack, in which 16 Tomahawks struck their targets inside the walled headquarters compound in downtown Baghdad, was a crippling blow.

Mr. Clinton told reporters that a report from his national security advisers confirmed that "we did

in fact cripple the Iraqi intelligence capacity."

Mr. Eisenstadt said he believed that Mr. Clinton had exaggerated the effect of the attack, which was retaliation for what Clinton described as compelling evidence that Iraq was behind a foiled plot to assassinate former President George Bush in Kuwait.

Pentagon officials said Sunday that the missiles had inflicted heavy damage on the "leadership wing" of the IIS headquarters building — the area occupied by the top intelligence officials, none of whom apparently was present at the time.

The missiles also struck nearby buildings housing the IIS communications and computer operations, and a conference centre, Pentagon officials said.

David Kay, who headed a United Nations special commission that inspected Iraq's nuclear programme after the Gulf war, said Monday the only way to seriously damage Iraq is to get rid of the intelligence leaders.

"I don't think you cripple any Iraqi operation if you just hit a building when people aren't there," he said. "The strength of any intelligence operation isn't a building, it's in the people" who run it.

The IIS had a strong hand in Iraq's elaborate system for purchasing materials and components abroad for its secret programme to develop nuclear weapons. Mr. Kay and others said.

Defence Secretary Les Aspin Saturday said IIS had responsibility for investigating and acting against suspected dissidents inside Iraq. He said it is the primary agency responsible for attacks on foreign operations.

Kurdish guerrillas stepped up their bloody summer offensive on Monday, targeting tourists with an attack on a passenger train

in the town of Idlib, 275

kilometres north of Damascus. The paper gave no date for the execution. It said it took place "in the past few days."

U.N. to repatriate Somalis

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations said Tues-

day it would repatriate Somali refugees in Kenya to the one-time famine-death town of Bardele where farming has now resumed. At the height of

the famine, up to 100 civilians were dying a day in the southwestern town, said spokeswoman Sylva Foa, who called Bardele "a symbol of every-

thing horrible in Somalia." The situation in Bardele is "now such that people can go home and want to," she told a news briefing. Farming had resumed and schools were back in operation.

However, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said no refugees would be sent to the capital Mogadishu or to the town of Kisumu because of security fears. In all, 330,000 Somalis are estimated to have fled war and drought for Kenya. Some 10,000 Somali refugees out of 150,000 registered with the agency have already left Kenya under a voluntary repatriation pro-

gramme begun in January.

Christopher holds talks with Husseini

WASHINGTON (R) — With the latest round of Middle East peace talks beginning to wind down, Secretary of State Warren Christopher met Palestinian leader Faisal Husseini Monday in an effort to move the peace process forward.

The meeting between Mr. Christopher and Mr. Husseini, overall head of the Palestinian delegation, took place as Palestinians and Israelis began the last week of the 10th round of talks unable to bridge their differences on how to hammer out a joint declaration of principles.

"They met alone and discussed a range of issues from (Israeli) human rights violations to the subject of Jerusalem," a Palestinian close to the team told Reuters.

U.S. officials confirmed Mr. Christopher had met Mr. Husseini but refused to elaborate on the 30-minute meeting at the State Department.

The 10th round of talks, which began June 15, is scheduled to end on Thursday. The talks were inaugurated in late 1991 at an international conference in Madrid.

In addition to the Palestinians, Israel is also negotiating with

Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. In a related development, U.S. officials strongly hinted Monday that Dennis Ross, the recently appointed special coordinator for the talks, would travel to the Middle East in the near future to gauge the possibility of "taking decisions" that would move the peace process forward.

One official said Mr. Ross's trip was not imminent in that Mr. Ross has not yet "bought a ticket and got his visas."

But when asked if Mr. Christopher was likely to visit the Middle East only after Mr. Ross has determined what possibilities for progress existed, the official said facetiously: "Does someone think that, based on what I said?"

Mr. Christopher visited the Middle East last February in a bid to restart the talks, which were suspended after Israel forced more than 400 Palestinians from the occupied territories to Lebanon two months earlier.

The secretary last week said he was personally following up the negotiations in line with his promise that Washington would play the role of "full partner" in the talks.

Israel refuses to discuss the future of East Jerusalem at this time while Palestinians rule out any agreement that does not include the city.

Palestinians and Israelis have been expecting the United States to offer a bridging proposal sometime this week.

But State Department spokesman Mike McCurry, asked whether the United States intends to present written proposals this week, said: "I wouldn't categorically rule it out, but I don't... want to suggest that there's one imminent or forthcoming either."

Palestinians and Israelis have

so far failed to make any headway on their common objective of completing a joint declaration of principles outlining future powers and jurisdiction of a future Palestinian authority in the occupied territories.

The two sides are negotiating a five-year interim period of self-rule for the two million Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But both sides have been deadlocked on whether Arab East Jerusalem, occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war, would be part of a future Palestinian authority.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Egyptian spied for girlfriend

Kabul holds 'food poisoners'

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian arrested for allegedly spying for Israel for six years told investigators he did so he could afford his foreign girlfriend's expensive demands, a court official said Tuesday.

The Egyptian was identified as Gamal Abdul Nasser, 40, who worked as a sailor and lived in two Kabul districts while injecting poison into fruit and other foodstuffs. They have "confessed their crime" and said they were doing it at the behest of the Hezbollah party of minority Shi'ite Muslims to create panic, the radio said. Kabul's official media has targeted the Iranian-backed Hezbollah in recent weeks and blamed it for most of the rocket and artillery attacks on Kabul's residential areas.

The Hezbollah, an ally of hardline Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar in his rivalry with President Burhanuddin Rabbani, denies the charge.

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan security forces arrested eight people on charges of injecting poison into food in a market place, the official Kabul Radio said Monday. The broadcast said the suspects were arrested in the past two days from two Kabul districts while injecting poison into fruit and other foodstuffs. They have "confessed their crime" and said they were doing it at the behest of the Hezbollah party of minority Shi'ite Muslims to create panic, the radio said. Kabul's official media has targeted the Iranian-backed Hezbollah in recent weeks and blamed it for most of the rocket and artillery attacks on Kabul's residential areas.

The Hezbollah, an ally of hardline Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar in his rivalry with President Burhanuddin Rabbani, denies the charge.

Cyprus may free Arab-British trio

NICOSIA (AFP) — The Cyprus general prosecutor will shortly review the sentences of two Arabs and a Briton serving life terms for killing three Israelis in 1985 and may order their release, a spokesman said Monday. The trio, Khaled Abdul Kader Al Khatib and Abdul Hakim Khalifa, both Palestinians, and Ian Michael Davison have been detained since 1985. Government spokesman Yannakis Cassiolides said Cypriot authorities had initially planned to free the three next September or October after granting them a presidential pardon for "good conduct" in prison. But in the meantime, the supreme court outlawed automatic reductions on grounds of good conduct for life sentences. It said life terms could not be reduced unless the general prosecutor recommended it and the president gave his approval.

Cypriot denies financing Labour

NICOSIA (AFP) — A Greek-Cypriot millionaire who fled British fraud inspectors has denied a newspaper report that he contributed stolen funds to the Labour Party. Clothing manufacturer Charilaos Costa, quoted Tuesday by the daily Cyprus Mail, dismissed the report as "insulting" and aimed at diverting attention from fugitive Turkish-Cypriot businessman Asil Nadir. The independent on Sunday newspaper has accused Labour under its former leader Neil Kinnock of accepting £20,000 (\$450,000) it alleged that Mr. Costa "stole" from his company. Mr. Costa fled to Nicosia in 1991 to escape British fraud inspectors, with £10 million (\$15 million) allegedly missing from the company. Mr. Nadir, who fled in May to breakaway northern Cyprus, contributed £440,000 (£660,000) to the Conservative Party — donations the Labour opposition claims helped to secure him valuable offshore tax status. Labour has been hammering at the government to return the money, claiming it was tainted because it came from some £30 million (\$45 million) allegedly embezzled from Mr. Nadir's failed company.

Diplomats visit Britons in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AFP) — Two British diplomats visiting Iraq met Monday with three Britons imprisoned here for having illegally entered the country, one of the diplomats said. "We did visit this morning the prisoners," Mark Legoy, who works for the British embassy in Amman, told AFP, but declined to give details. He was accompanied by Stephen Howarth, in charge of consular affairs at the Foreign Office. They visited Abu Ghraib prison, 20 kilometres west of Baghdad, where Paul Ride, Michael Wainright and Simon Dunn are being held. He said he and Mr. Howarth did not expect to meet Iraqi officials but would not rule out such an encounter. They will probably meet the prisoners a second time before their planned departure on Thursday.

Contacted last night, Legoy would only say, "I stand by what I wrote in my book."

Dine yesterday said he had no immediate plans.

Dine's resignation is the latest incident to rock AIPAC over the last year. Its last president, David Steiner, was forced to resign after his boasting about AIPAC's clout in electing the next secretary of state was taped. Upon Labour's assumption of power, there were complaints that the organisation was too close to the Likud.

Grossman said Dine's deputy Howard Kohr will serve as acting director.

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director.

Britain wanted Nadir 'kidnapped'

LONDON (R) — The president of northern Cyprus, Rauf Denktash, said Monday British authorities wanted his police to "kidnap" Asil Nadir so that the fugitive tycoon could stand trial on theft and fraud charges. Mr. Denktash told the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) he had been asked to order his police to seize Mr. Nadir and hand him over to British soldiers at the border between the self-proclaimed Turkish-Cypriot state and the Greek-Cypriot island. "They said hand him over to us at the British bases... we shall immediately fly him to England," Mr. Denktash said in an interview from northern Cyprus, where Mr. Nadir fled last month after jumping bail in Britain over charges arising from the collapse of his Polly Peck conglomerate.

"I said this is asking to kidnap him, he said I didn't use the words. I said it doesn't matter about the words this is its meaning. And he said not really." The identity of the official concerned was not clear. A spokesman for the foreign office said he had not seen the interview and had no information about any discussions between London and northern Cyprus about Mr. Nadir's return. He said the Foreign Office would look into the matter.

On June 8 PPK leader Abdul

Ocalan ended a unilateral ceasefire implemented by his party in March and pledged to "transfer the war to the cities and tourist areas" of Turkey.

The threat was reiterated in a statement distributed in Athens on June 24 that coincided with the attacks against Turkish facilities in 30 European cities.

Hospitals were taken in Marseilles and Munich while a demonstrator was shot and killed outside the Turkish embassy in Berlin.

Kurdish guerrillas stepped up their bloody summer offensive on Monday, targeting tourists with an attack on a passenger train

1 executed in Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — A 30-year-old man who drugged and electrocuted his father has been hanged for murder, a government newspaper reported Tuesday. The Arabic-language Tishreen daily said Atta Bajir killed his 60-year-old father with the help of his two brothers, who were given unspecified prison sentences as accomplices. The paper said the three brothers drugged their father with sleeping pills before running household electrical current through his body. It said the crime was reported to the police by an informant.

Upon questioning, the brothers pleaded guilty to the crime, the newspaper said. It quoted Bajir's brothers as saying their father was ill-tempered and had long mistreated their mother. The paper said Bajir was hanged at the town of Idlib, 275

kilometres north of Damascus. The paper gave no date for the execution. It said it took place "in the past few days."

U.N. to repatriate Somalis

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations said Tues-

day it would repatriate Somali refugees in Kenya to the one-time famine-death town of Bardele where farming has now resumed. At the height of

the famine, up to 100 civilians



Home News

Cabinet approves publication of 2 new dailies, 3 magazines

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Tuesday approved the publication of two new Arabic dailies: "Akbar Al Yom and Akher Khobar," which will be published in Amman. It also approved the publication of two weekly magazines: a political review entitled "Al Bilad"; and a political and cultural periodical called "Al Dawaa."

The Cabinet also approved the publication of women's and family affairs magazine, which will be published every week and called "Al Bait Al Arabi (The Arab Home)."

The Council of Ministers approved the establishment of

diplomatic relations with Bosnia Herzegovina at the ambassadorial level. Jordan's ambassador to Austria will serve as the Kingdom's non-resident ambassador to the former Yugoslav republic, according to a Cabinet statement.

The Council of Ministers was briefed on public health measures taken by Ministry of Interior during summer to prevent the spread of diseases.

Jordan's participation in the 50th conference of Arab countries supervising Palestinian affairs due to open in Cairo on July 26 was also approved. The delegation to the meeting will be led by Adel Isheid, head of the



University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharibeh Tuesday opens a two-day workshop on the conservation of nature in the Mediterranean zone

Mediterranean zone experts review conservation of area's nature

AMMAN (J.T.) Environmental issues are being given priority in Jordan since they are directly linked to scientific, economic and humanitarian endeavours, said University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharibeh Tuesday.

In opening a regional workshop on the conservation of nature in the Mediterranean zone, Dr. Gharibeh called on various governments and non-governmental organisations with-

in the Mediterranean region to increase their cooperation in protecting the environment.

Attending the two-day workshop, organised in cooperation with the Mediterranean Sea University of Brussels and the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Jordan, are 15 city planning and organisation specialists from Italy, Spain, France and Algeria, in addition to Jordan.

Distance learning programme to expand

AMMAN (J.T.) — The success of the distance learning programme of Quds Open University (QOU) has prompted the university to open new branches in Arab countries announced QOU President Munther Salah Tuesday.

Addressing the second day of a seminar to discuss the university's activities and expansion, Dr. Salah said that after opening branches in the Arab region, QOU plans to open other branches in Britain and the United States to benefit the Arab communities there.

Although its services are currently offered to 4,000 mainly Palestinian students, QOU is a university for all Arabs, said Dr.

working paper on the production of educational materials for students, the fourth session discussed procedures adopted in evaluating students' performance, and the fifth covered matters related to those supervising the distance learning process.

Education Minister Khaled Al Omari, who opened the three-day seminar Monday praised QOU as a manifestation of the Palestinian people's determination to acquire education while undertaking the struggle for liberation.

The seminar was organised by QOU in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

The third session focused on a

said festival Director Akram Masarweh.

In addressing a press conference Tuesday, Mr. Masarweh, predicted that this 12th festival will be unique and impressive as new local elements have been added, including the Nabil and Hisham Theatre Troupe who will present political satires for adults and other plays for children.

Other local performances will be presented by the Royal Cultural Centre's Ballet Troupe and a host of folk dances and singers. The first day of the festival will be dedicated to Jordanian traditions, said Mr. Masarweh.

This is the second year in which local organisations are helping to finance part of the festival in a bid to assist the Jerash Festival Com-

mittee to overcome current financial difficulties, Mr. Masarweh added.

The director explained that the activities are being held in sites because the Amman-Jerash highway is still under construction, making travel for some to Jerash somewhat difficult.

The festival will continue from July 14 to 30.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Paintings by Salem Al Dabbagh, Himat Ali and Karim Rassan at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery (10 a.m.-6 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition by 26 Jordanian artists at Eshbelein Art Gallery, 6th Circle, Amra Shopping Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings in watercolour, oil and acrylics by Mrs. Heidi Evers at the British Council.
- ★ Exhibition of art works by Samia Zaru at the Marriott Hotel.

FILM

- ★ Feature film entitled "Animal Farm" at 7 p.m. at the British Council.

Official urges halt to well licences

By Sa'eda Kilani

National strategy for women adopted

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A national strategy for women in Jordan that calls for upgrading women's status by raising public awareness and amending laws inconsistent with women's rights was adopted at a conference Tuesday.

The strategy, which was the fruit of one year of arduous work, meetings and seminars in different parts of the Kingdom, is considered a guideline for the advancement of women in Jordan and will be the document presented by the Jordanian delegation to the 1995 International Women's Conference in Peking.

Drafted by the National Committee for Women's Affairs, the document is based upon consensus among the different sectors, authorities and individuals reached at several previous meetings and seminars.

The conference, chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma and attended by representatives of different private and public sectors, senators, deputies and women's unions, called for the adoption of a strong mechanism to implement the national strategy.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan stopped by the meeting before the national strategy was approved and extended his support and encouragement, saying, "In my turn, I have come to support you all for what you have achieved in the field of (human) rights."

In his short speech, the Crown Prince urged the audience to concentrate on raising public awareness of women's roles, by adopting clear and simple programmes that are comprehensive and which represent all layers of society. He said that the national strategy should have Arabic and Islamic perspectives and a humanitarian content.

Emphasis on Arabic and Islamic values was clear in the first two articles that define the basis on which the national strategy relies. The article



Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Basma Tuesday participate, in a one-day conference on forming a national strategy for women in Jordan (Petra photo)

law, taking into consideration women's interest in accordance with clear-cut Sharia scripts through Islamic scholars' judgement and based upon opinions of Islamic Faqih that go hand in hand with contemporary society's (needs) and development."

At the political level, the strategy aims at ameliorating educational services in all areas and reinforcing a positive image of women in the educational curricula portraying a positive role of women in the family and society.

One of the steps the strategy adopted to implement these objectives is to prepare the mechanism of application. Some protested the lack of consideration paid to the information field.

The National Committee for Women, charged with rephrasing the document and introducing the proposal amendments to it, expects to publicly issue the final draft by the end of next week.

"Everyone who participated in preparing and approving the strategy should provide the suitable conditions for application so as not to transfer the strategy to written slogans," Princess Basma concluded.

Toujan Faisal, a women's activist, strongly attacked the female stereotype reflected in television programme. She said the woman is either reflected as a bad and evil creature, an exaggeratedly sacrificing mother or as a weak individual who needs the help of others.

"This stereotyped picture drawn in television series and programmes has now become an obligatory role that women have to play," Ms. Faisal said. "At present, the sacrificing image of the mother is demanded and to large degrees she can expect nothing in return."

Media's 'distorted' image of women must be changed, say activists

By Sa'eda Kilani

Special to the Jordan Times

Jordan Television Corporation (JTC) reflects women either as sex objects or as traditional veiled women.

"Both are symbols of the concentration on the women's body that has either to be covered or displayed," she said.

"Where is the intellectual woman... she is completely absent," she added. "This is a result of the Western invasion on our culture and its policy of imposing degradation on our societies..."

Ahmad Theeban, a journalist at the Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaab, spoke of women's abuse in the press regarding women's status in the city and particularly the lack

of attention paid to rural women.

"While women in the city are struggling to obtain an honourable status in the political field, women in the rural areas are still fighting against poverty, social norms and traditions that are rarely reflected in the media."

Mr. Theeban also criticised what he saw as the constant degradation of women's personality and individuality by continually linking women's achievements to men's achievements.

"The woman is portrayed as the wife, daughter and sister of an important husband, father or brother," he said.

Democratic Party for Progress in Jordan to nominate candidates for Parliament

By Mariam M. Shahin

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — At its July 9 congress, the Democratic Party for Progress in Jordan (DPPJ) will nominate candidates from its membership to run on the party ticket in the parliamentary elections expected this fall, said Secretary General Ali Amer this week.

Although several independents seeking seats in the Lower House of Parliament have already announced their candidacy, most political parties have not yet named their candidates.

By the beginning of July, however, most parties are expected to launch their campaigns by announcing their nominees.

Although DPPJ wants a redrawing of electoral districts to encompass all of Jordan into one electoral district, replacing the current system, it says it will field candidates regardless of changes in the election law.

"We will decide and vote on our candidates on July 9th," Mr. Amer told the Jordan Times in an interview this week.

"We prefer a change in the electoral districts and an enlargement of the Parliament to 120 seats," said Mr. Amer.

"Proportional representation wherein every 200,000 voters would be represented by some 24 deputies," Mr. Amer said, "would be a more proportional."

Details about the number of candidates, the districts they would run in or what kind of coalition the DPPJ would form with other left-wing parties, had not yet been decided, said Mr. Amer.

"We hope to answer some of those questions during the congress," he said. No female candidate would be fielded, said Mr. Amer, if the current electoral districts stayed in place.

"None of our female members will have any chance of winning if the current electoral districts are

preserved," Mr. Amer explained.

Economic issues and the peace process would be the two main forces of the DPPJ platform during what party leaders say will be "three months of intensive campaigning."

Thus far the DPPJ is one of five left-wing political parties fielding candidates for the election. Political analysts say that support for left-wing politics has declined internationally since the break-up of the Soviet Union, and that this decline is likely to be felt in Jordan's general elections as well.

"The left is on the decline and its schisms will only accelerate that decline," said a former member of a left-wing movement that split last year.

The ascension of Islamist revisionist groups coupled with economic decline and Western political hegemony in the region have all played a part in the loss of attraction that left-wing political parties once enjoyed, say

analysts.

Nevertheless, in the 1989 elections three leftists won seats in the Kingdom's 80-member parliament.

Earlier this month the Jordan People's Democratic Party (JPDP) announced it was fielding five candidates. The JPDP and the DPPJ are spin-offs of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a Palestinian party once part of the political underground in Jordan.

Jordan's July 1988 decision to sever legal and administration links with the occupied West Bank created a schism in the Palestinian parties who had massive popular support in the Kingdom. New Jordanian parties were thus born.

The DPPJ was the first left-wing party to be granted party status after a row late last year between leftist parties whose legalisation had been rejected by the Ministry of Interior.

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Opinion & Analysis

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1993

Jordan Times

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الجريدة العربية الوحيدة التي تنشر في الأردن

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The things at stake

THE TENTH round of peace negotiations between Israel and the Arab parties is nearing its end with not much to show for it. This is not surprising since the Israeli position has stayed where it has been over the last nine rounds of peace talks. Washington promised to play an effective role throughout the bilateral peace process that it had originally brokered, but has yet to deliver on that pledge in a concrete way. As a matter of fact, both Israel and the various Arab delegations have anticipated a greater role for the U.S. because both sides know only too well that the gap between them cannot be bridged without a meaningful participation by the Clinton administration in the talks. There is no sign yet that this will indeed be the case during what the world thought would be an eventful tenth round of Arab-Israeli peace talks. Should the ongoing efforts also fail to register real progress in the peace process, then all the prophecies about gloom and doom sweeping through the Middle East region may not be far from really happening.

The risk that extremism on both sides of the fence may exploit the failure of the peace process to advance can no longer be dismissed as sheer fantasy. All over this region of the world there are increasing signs that the cause of the extremist forces is steadily gaining on several fronts and is constantly consolidating its gains in other areas where it has already cemented footholds.

While peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours may be postponed for few more years, it is extremely doubtful that the tide in favour of extremism can be checked during this waiting period. Israel must be the first to be weary about the rise and spread of extremism. Washington must also direct its attention to this phenomenon that is spreading in the Middle East and other developing countries. The stakes for all countries especially the moderate ones among them, are simply too high to continue to be taken lightly. This is therefore the time for the Clinton administration to step in right now and before the termination of the current peace round or risk losing all possibilities for peace in the Middle East and in turn a rebound for moderation in the area.

We in Jordan have a special concern about the turn of events in Washington since we are at the threshold of another parliamentary election in few months. The stakes for democracy and pluralism in the country are obviously too formidable. There is no way that the people of the country can continue to nurture moderation as long as the results of the past efforts in the peace process do not vindicate such a posture. It must stand on all parties that greater and more forceful attempts are needed to save the bilateral talks from eminent disaster.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

EXCEPT for Washington's closest allies, most nations have condemned the recent U.S. missile attack on residential sites in Baghdad, said Al Ra'i daily. Most reactions to the raid condemned the double-standard attitude followed by Washington in dealing with world issues under the so-called new world order, the paper noted. Criticism of Washington's actions did not only concentrate on the unjustified raid but also on Washington's failure to help achieve peace between the Arabs and the Israelis it had promised, continued the paper. The daily said that the latest U.S. attack coincided with the conclusion of the World Conference on Human Rights and the announcement of the Vienna Declaration which called for the establishment of a world order that would enhance the cause of justice and peace. The paper pointed out that the attack came in flagrant violation of this declaration and contrary to the aspirations of the peace-loving nations. The American missile attack on the innocent civilians in Baghdad, said the paper, was a clear indication that the U.S. administration is not interested in the declaration of the Vienna document which calls for equality, justice, democracy, solidarity, and the rule of the law.

A MISSILE attack on Baghdad was launched not only against Iraqi capital and its people, it was rather directed against the Arab nation's dignity, said a columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily yesterday. Fahd Al Fonok said that the barbarians of the 20th century have exposed themselves more and more to the world, but most importantly have exposed the true nature of the Arab regimes which have totally succumbed to the will and the desires of the American cowboy and, by so doing, lost whatever remained of their legitimacy. What can Arab regimes say now in the face of the barbaric attack on the civilian population of Baghdad?, asked the writer. This time the Americans did not seek permission from the Arab League to launch its attack on Baghdad as it did before simply because there is no need for such a permission, said the writer. He said that the attack was meant as an offence to every Arab citizen and was justified by the United Nations in terms of self-defence, added the writer. What glory does the writer seek, being a superpower, by murdering innocent civilians, and how does Washington appraise itself now, being the author of outlaw? asked the writer. The United States has a long, bloody history because it has been launching aggression on one country after another, added the writer. He said that the latest aggression on Baghdad can only draw hatred and anger not only against Washington, but more specifically against Washington's Arab sneaking allies in the region.

Economic Forum

By Dr. Abdallah Malki

Foreign investment

Deeds speak louder than words

In the early seventies, Jordan launched an ambitious scheme to attract foreign investments, including Arab ones. For this purpose, it enacted, in 1972, a modern legislation, The Encouragement of Investment Law, which is about to be amended as a sign of the renewed Jordanian interest in attracting these investments.

Considerable emphasis was put in that law on financial incentives. Tax exemptions were meant to be a central attraction. Starting with the sixties, developing countries rushed to take measures to attract foreign investment and, almost unanimously, adopted tax exemptions. One would reasonably argue that this unanimity tended to neutralise the positive effects of this weapon. That is true in the sense that tax exemptions no more give any country a competition edge. But then withholding such incentives would constitute a competition disadvantage. Developing countries foolishly established a policy which was irreversible and served only the interests of foreign investors.

Notwithstanding financial and other generous incentives, foreign capital invested in Jordan in the period 1975-90 constituted a meagre 7 per cent of aggregate investment. And this very modest portion still overstates the importance of foreign capital invested in Jordan. The term "investment" refers to capital invested each year in the economy. Thus, capital stock in a given country at any given time is the sum of all past annual investments, discounted by the rate of capital depreciation. On this count, foreign capital invested in Jordan is much less than 7 per cent of capital stock,

probably 2 to 3 per cent of it. This very low level after decades of encouraging foreign investment hardly warrants the effort and is a powerful evidence that the foreign investment policy of Jordan has been a failure. There is no economic rationale for carrying on with this or other similar policies.

Actually, the nature of the net final effect of foreign investment on the economies of host countries, whether it is positive or negative, has not yet been well-established in the theory of development economics. When I suggested to my supervisor to write my Ph.D. thesis on the advantages of foreign investment he insisted that the theme must be whether such investment was advantageous or otherwise.

However, the above argumentation in no way suggests that the economic policy of Jordan should not care for foreign investment. The crucial point is that Jordan and, for that matter, any other developing countries, should provide the conditions necessary to promote their own national investment. If that is done, the same conditions will be good enough for promoting foreign investment as well, and they do not have to offer special incentives for foreign investment, particularly the costly tax exemptions.

Advanced countries do not offer any special incentives for foreign investment. Nevertheless, they attract huge foreign investment on a permanent basis. Indeed, if developing countries fail to treat indigenous investment in a fair and good way, no foreign investor will believe or expect them to treat him that way, irrespective of the legislative rhetoric.



Coca Cola, Arab indignity and the violence of 1993

By Rami Khouri

The American missile attack on Baghdad Saturday night will be seen by most people as a continuation of the Gulf war and a confirmation of the novel yet barbaric nature of modern Anglo-Saxon technological warfare: the battlefield action stopped over two years ago, but the killing and the mass human suffering on unabated, whether due to sanctions or to punitive military strikes.

The broader political imperative from the American perspective also continues and becomes more clear: to maintain the Middle East in a political/commercial configuration that serves western economic interests first and foremost, a status quo that is uncomfortable for the majority of Arabs in this region, but safe from the threats of indigenous Middle Eastern powers or even from the aspirations of the people of the region.

It seems that at the end of the 20th century Washington may play the role of military enforcer and exploitative economic hegemon in the Middle East that Great Britain played in the region at the end of the 19th century. The actors and the commodities change, but the script remains depressingly familiar. The British wanted to sell us tea, the Americans sell us Coca Cola. The British wanted to maintain communications routes to their Asian empire, the Americans want to maintain privileged access to Arab oil, commercial markets and financial surpluses. The British and their European co-predators had to contain Mohammad Ali in the 19th century to protect their imperial interests, the Americans and their European sidekicks have to contain Gamal Abdul Nasser, Ayatollah Khomeini and Saddam Hussein to protect their neo-imperial interests in the 20th century.

The specific American rationale for this latest action — the alleged Iraqi plot to assassinate George Bush — should be seen within the broader regional picture of interaction between the Arab/Islamic people of the Middle East and the United States. The assassination story may or may not be true. The fact is, Washington attacked Iraqi targets several other times in the last year, and it maintains a tight embargo that has brought suffering to millions of ordinary Iraqis. The assassination allegation is a passing incident, while the reality of the use of overwhelming American military power against virtually helpless targets in the Middle East is a new pattern that appears capable of becoming a routine habit.

The broader picture of short-term U.S.-Middle Eastern dynamics is gloomy, given the continued attacks against Iraq, the use of American troops in Somalia, the aggressive diplomatic campaign against Iran, Libya, and Sudan, and the new phenomenon of apparently Arab/Islamic-sponsored terrorism against targets in the United States. The separate incidents of violence and counter-violence that characterise U.S.-Middle Eastern dynamics now threaten to become a permanent cycle of savagery fuelled by an escalating legacy of injustice, anger, desperation, contempt and double standards.

Neither side will benefit from such a trend, and both peoples will suffer rising levels of fear, death and destruction. Neither brand of violence can be justified, supported or accepted. The technological militarism of Washington and the indiscriminate terror tactics of anti-American Arabs or Muslims stem from deeper fears that cannot be addressed by further violence. The

Static revenue estimates are a major cause of the budget deficit

By Paul Craig Roberts

SENATE Democrats have done President Bill Clinton and the economy a great service by axing his British Thermal Units (BTU) tax on energy, but if they want to save his presidency — and the recovery — they will have to go further and kill the entire tax bill.

The adverse impact of the energy tax on the poor was clear enough to Mr. Clinton's advisers, who set aside 40 per cent of the projected revenues to beef up welfare spending to compensate poor Americans for what they would pay. The Senate, concerned with the harm to employment in energy-intensive industries, such as airlines, aluminium, fertilisers, and steel, took this reasoning a step further. Adding up the lost payroll and income taxes, it was clear that the tax was a revenue loser. It made no sense to take on so many special interests for a tax that would cost the government more money than it would bring in.

Since the energy tax's projected revenues of \$70 billion were a figment of the estimators' imaginations, newspaper reports that Senate Democrats are struggling to cobble together other taxes to plug the revenue hole are nonsensical. As the tax would have produced no net revenues, there is no hole to plug.

The sorry episode of the life and death of this tax is a prime example of the political damage and public confusion wrought by static revenue estimates. Congress Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) and the Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis (OTA) base revenue estimates on the assumption that taxes do not affect behaviour, sales, employment, profits, or investment. Consequently, estimators always overestimate the revenue gains from a tax hike and the losses from a tax cut.

Shrinking ships

Indeed, static revenue estimates are a major cause of the budget deficit. The JCT and OTA keep loading the government up with revenue-losing tax hikes. Examples abound. Remember the luxury tax on yachts, furs, jewellery, and private airplanes? Well, the facts are in: Internal Revenue Service filings show that the resulting job losses alone have cost the government \$2.40 for every \$1 of revenue.

The airplane tax is the most amazing of all. In fiscal 1991, it brought in a mere \$53,000 in revenues but cost \$5.1 million in unemployment outlays. Another example is the repeal in the 1986 Tax Reform Act of the tax deferral for earnings reinvested in the shipping industry (Sub-Part F). Estimators expected an additional \$40 million a year, but studies by the General

Certainly, we do not need any more tax hikes that swell the deficit. Yet Mr. Clinton's plan is based on the same invalid methodology for producing revenue estimates that predicted Mr. Bush's, 1990 tax increase would balance the budget. Mr. Clinton should note that, after Mr. Bush's budget deal was enacted, the Congressional Budget Office raised its five-year deficit projections six times by an average of \$220 billion. Unless Mr. Clinton wants a bigger deficit, higher unemployment, rising inflation and a currency crisis to boot, he should hope that special interests deep-six his entire tax bill — Business Week.

chickens coming home to roost. It is an act of monumental weakness, confusion, and frustration.

It is sad but perhaps understandable that Bill Clinton, the FBI, and others in the United States have quickly resorted to jingoistic emotionalism in explaining why they bombed Baghdad yet again. "Don't tread on me" plays well in Main Street, USA in the short run. It pumps up the nationalistic adrenaline. It generates powerful imagery from the past — the Alamo, Two Jima, the Shores of Tripoli, where guns speak and tough guys strut, but the mind is put on hold. But what does this approach get you in the end, other than a non-stop cowboy film, guns in your high schools, and veins where the sugar of the Coca Cola mixes uneasily with the chemicals of the cocaine?

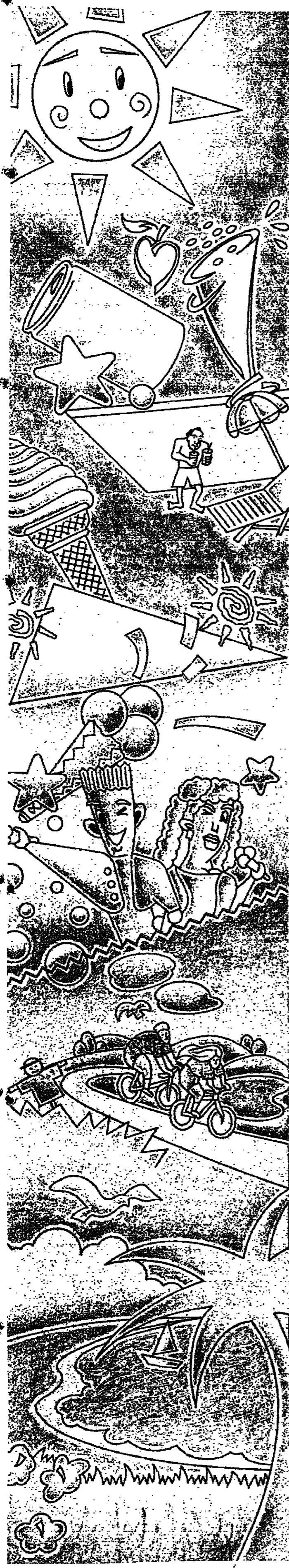
George Bush played the same game nearly three years ago — and look what has happened to him, to the U.S., and to the Middle East since then. Or are we not supposed to deal with facts, history, political reality, and human nature? Are we only supposed to wave the flag, and enjoy the fireworks — while seeking perpetual refuge in a fantasy world defined by the imperative of selling Coca Cola, the logic of imperial compulsion and the morality of shallow and facile politicians driven by the horror of electoral defeat and by little else of higher value?

We have heard and will continue to hear many allusions to American policy in Bosnia. Why does the United States use military force against Arabs but not against Serbs or Croats? Why does the United States mobilise a global armada to defend Europe? These arguments grow repetitive, sometimes tedious, be heeded and studied and acted upon: yet, they reflect only a small part of the full picture.

That full picture comprises a host of other Middle Eastern injustices and double standards that we ask the world to help us resolve. Value Arab/Islamic democracy and promote Arab/international law and U.N. resolutions in Palestine as you do in other conflicts. Shun autocrats in our region as you do elsewhere. By all means, buy our oil. Use our strategic communication people, hear them, deal with them as human beings who have rights, dreams, and feelings.

Because if, in the end, you see the Arab/Islamic people only as material commodities and then set them as targets in your card and a box of chocolates. One day, they will stop pleading for disposal — uncaring of legal or moral niceties that they have been denied, unimpressed by visions of fantasy lands and cowboy den. The world missed the opportunity to achieve justice and surprising, then, that 1993 should be so ugly and cruel?

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- Basket Ball Spalding (3)
- Skating Board (2)
- Picknick Coolant set

Second Draw 15/7/93

- Airticket Amman/Madrid/Amman
- 3 days in Aqaba for 2 persons
- Bicycles 27" and 24"
- Grill large, Medium or Small
- Swatch Watches (2)
- Walkman (3)
- Inflatable Boat (3)
- Skating Board (2)
- Picknick Coolant Set

Third Draw 22/7/93

- Airticket Amman/Paris/Amman
- 3 days in Aqaba for 2 persons
- Bicycles 27" and 24"
- Grill large, Medium or Small
- Swatch Watches (2)
- Walkman (3)
- Inflatable Boat (3)
- Basket Ball Spalding (3)
- Skating Board (3)
- Sleeping Bag

Forth Draw 29/7/93

- Airticket Amman/Copenhagen/Amman
- 3 days in Aqaba for 2 persons
- Bicycles 27" and 24"
- Grill large, Medium or Small
- Swatch Watches (2)
- Walkman (3)
- Inflatable Boat (3)
- Basket Ball Spalding (3)
- Skating Board (3)
- Sleeping Bag

Fifth Draw 5/8/93

- Airticket Amman/Brussels/Amman
- 3 days in Aqaba for 2 persons
- Bicycles 27" and 20"
- Grill large, Medium or Small
- Swatch Watches (2)
- Walkman (3)
- Inflatable Boat (3)
- Basket Ball Spalding (3)
- Skating Board (2)
- Sleeping Bag
- Picknick Coolant Set

Sixth Draw 12/8/93

- Airticket Amman/London/Amman
- 3 days in Aqaba for 2 persons
- Bicycles 20" (2)
- Grill large, Medium or Small
- Swatch Watches (2)
- Walkman (3)
- Inflatable Boat (3)
- Basket Ball Spalding (3)
- Skating Board (2)
- Sleeping Bag
- Picknick Coolant Set

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Crime money using new channels

PARIS (AFP) — Organised crime is increasingly using non-bank financial institutions and other businesses to launder an estimated \$85 million a year generated by world-wide drug trafficking and other criminal activities, a group fighting money laundering said Tuesday.

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), set up at the request of the 1989 Paris summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) economic superpowers to track illicit cross-border financial transactions, said investigations over the past year into new money laundering techniques had turned up fresh evidence of this.

The task force, grouping countries and regions which are home to most major financial centres, has pressed on with efforts to persuade additional countries and regions to join the fight against money laundering, the FATF said in its annual report here.

In the past year, efforts to mobilise world-wide support for this crusade focused on Central and Eastern Europe, the Caribbean and Asia.

Outgoing FATF Chairman

Tom Sherman of Australia recently said the group had detected a stepping up of the activities of professional money launderers in 1992.

Reporting to a Council of Europe caucus, he voiced concern about the emergence of some Central and Eastern European countries — Bulgaria, Hungary and the former Czechoslovakia — as key staging posts for drug smuggling from the Middle East.

He cited privatisation and currency convertibility in the area as "open windows" for money launderers.

The FATF report said special seminars for finance officials of several East European countries were held in 1992 in Budapest and Warsaw and similar events were organised for Asian and Pacific countries — in Australia last September and in Singapore in April.

Caribbean countries, which have set up their own regional financial task force, last November endorsed a set of 40 FATF recommendations adopted in

1990 listing national measures required to combat money laundering.

They notably called for legislation to lift banking secrecy to help monitor illicit transactions.

Nearly all FATF members have now made drug money laundering a criminal offence, or are about to amend their laws in this direction, according to the report.

The task force, which has set up a procedure of "mutual evaluations" to make sure that members comply with the 40 recommendations, is cooperating closely with such bodies as the Council of Europe, the United Nations' International Drug Control Programme and Interpol.

Although the FATF has made "substantial" progress in the past four years, Mr. Sherman, to be succeeded as chairman by a member of the European Union's International Drug Control Programme and Interpol.

The group said it launched a study of the use of "shell corporations" for money laundering, and was seeking to clarify how financial institutions could secure information about such clients.

Work was also under way on how to counter money laundering through non-financial businesses.

All Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) member countries, except Iceland, joined the FATF by 1991, along with some major Asian financial centres including Hong Kong and Singapore. The OECD provides a secretariat for the FATF.

There was still "some way to go" before all FATF recommendations were implemented by members, and there was a need to be "constantly on guard."

Outgoing FATF Chairman

France to look at tax cuts to fight recession

PARIS (R) — France's conservative government, increasingly frustrated by its limited room for pulling the economy out of recession with lower interest rates, hinted Tuesday that tax cuts are now on the cards.

Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, asked in an interview on Europe 1 radio whether he was considering a cut in income taxes, replied: "I've asked that we study that. It is not impossible."

Since it came to power in March, the government has relied heavily on interest rates, which it has cut nine times, to crank up economic growth and tackle unemployment.

But after bringing short-term rates down by four percentage points and wiping out their premium over German rates, there is little room for further cuts without the Bundesbank taking the lead. And the German central bank is dragging its heels.

Economy Minister Edmond Alphandery's apparent attempt to force the pace of Europe rate cuts last week back-fired when it met with an abrupt snub from his German counterpart.

"I faced with more bad news on the economy — Wednesday's unemployment figures are expected to show the jobless rate climbing to 11 per cent from 10.9 — and with less than two years to the presidential elections.

"Unshackling the franc from the constraints of Europe's Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) is one short-term answer put forward by some mavericks.

German coalition agrees \$11.8b savings plan

BONN (R) — Party leaders from Germany's ruling centre-right coalition agreed late Monday to a controversial plan to plug the widening budget deficit by cutting social welfare spending.

Finance Minister Theo Waigel told reporters after leaving the meeting in the chancellery that the party chiefs agreed on a "balanced programme" of cuts totalling 20 billion marks (\$11.8 billion) in 1994.

But despite painful cuts in federal spending, the budget deficit would remain at 1993's record levels, he said.

Asked by reporters as he left the meeting about his forecast for new borrowings by the government in 1994, Mr. Waigel said: "It will be around the same as this year."

The government is forecasting a federal budget deficit in 1993 of around 68 billion marks, up from 39 billion last year.

Mr. Waigel rejected criticism from unions and the opposition Social Democrats that the government was dismantling Germany's generous social welfare system.

"It is a balanced programme where all areas make their own contribution," he said. "But we must also conform certain social programmes to the economic realities," he added.

Mr. Waigel said recently the Bundesbank had made it clear that it would only find room for more cuts in leading interest rates, sorely needed to fuel economic recovery, if Bonn tightened its belt and cut the swelling public deficits.

Economics Minister Guenter Rexrodt, a liberal, who had earlier said the government must do more than just cut spending, said

he was satisfied with the package and that it included measures to boost the economy.

"I am especially satisfied that it is not only a pure savings package, but that it contains a series of initiatives for more economic growth," he said.

"Investment-oriented spending was cut less and, in some cases, was even raised," he said. "We gained some measures for more flexibility regarding working hours and licensing procedures for industry."

Labour Minister Norbert Bluem, whose budget will be sharply cut when the axe falls, said welfare recipients must do their part to help put Germany's economic house back in order.

But, with little to be pleased about, Mr. Bluem said he was able to keep at least one promise: "Nothing will happen to pensions, nothing at all."

Party officials declined to comment on the details of the package, called the "savings and consolidation programme".

The cabinet will decide on the spending cuts when it votes on the federal budget on July 13.

Mr. Waigel had proposed a package of spending cuts totalling more than 20 billion marks (\$11.8 billion) in 1994 and 25 billion marks (\$14.7 billion) in 1995.

The finance ministry said earlier that around half of next year's cuts would be made by slashing jobless benefits and social welfare programmes.

The junior coalition member Free Democrats (FDP) said before the talks that they wanted more government efforts to stimulate the economy, in its worst slump since World War II.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Ilieșcu meets Arab envoys

BUCHAREST (Petra) — Romanian President Ion Ilieșcu conferred here with Arab ambassadors accredited to Romania and attended a dinner banquet in his honour hosted by the Arab diplomatic mission doyen, the Lebanese ambassador to Romania. Discussion with the Romanian president covered ways to promote Arab-Romanian economic and trade links, regional and international affairs of common concern and the ongoing Middle East peace process. Romania's foreign minister Teodor Meliscanu attended the meeting along with a number of senior Romanian government officials.

Black Sea Fleet officers reject split

MOSCOW (AFP) — Officers of the Black Sea Fleet Tuesday rejected an agreement by presidents Boris Yeltsin and Leonid Kravchuk to divide up the powerful armada and said the entire fleet should be temporarily placed under Russia's jurisdiction. Interfax reported. Officers decided at an assembly at the fleet's home base of Sevastopol to hoist the Russian naval flag on all vessels, including warships, as of July 1 to protest the decision. In a statement, the seamen demanded that "commanders of the Black Sea Fleet make no attempt to order officers into splitting up the fleet. 'Officers will not take part in it,'" the statement said. Russia and Ukraine earlier this month agreed to speed up the dividing up of the fleet after about 200 vessels hoisted the Russian naval flag in protest over poor working conditions. Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Kravchuk last year agreed to share the fleet up until 1995. Officers maintained that "joint use of the fleet must be dictated by the common interests of Russia, Ukraine and other countries of the CIS."

Yeltsin's assembly convenes July 12

MOSCOW (AFP) — President Boris Yeltsin's Constituent Assembly will convene on July 12 in a bid to reach a consensus on a new fundamental law for Russia. Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Shumeiko said Tuesday. The scheduled session, which Mr. Yeltsin Saturday said would be the "final" meeting of the 700-member assembly, will be called to discuss a proposed single draft charter that has emerged from working groups over the past four weeks. Mr. Shumeiko was reported as saying by ITAR-TASS. The draft constitution would do away with the old-guard parliament, the Congress of People's Deputies, replacing it with a smaller bicameral legislature, while boosting Mr. Yeltsin's presidential powers. Parliamentary Chairman Ruslan Khatsabutov, Mr. Yeltsin's chief political rival, has boycotted the assembly, charging at first that it was not legally authorised to decide on the new constitution and later raising corruption allegations against presidential aides involved in the drafting of the basic law.

Rebels claim capture of Angolan town

SAO TOME (R) — The Angolan rebel movement UNITA said Tuesday it had recaptured the north-eastern diamond mining town of Chingufo after a seven-day battle. UNITA radio, monitored in the island state Sao Tome and Principe, said 26 government troops and five Zairean mercenaries fighting with them were killed. The mines, operated by a Portuguese company, had been defended by two government battalions and around 100 mercenaries, the radio said. The Angolan government had been trying to recapture diamond mines taken by UNITA since the movement took up arms again after rejecting its defeat in U.N.-supervised elections last September. Angola produced about \$600 million worth alluvial diamond last year, most of which were sold illegally across the border in neighbouring Zaire. UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) and the ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) signed a peace agreement in 1991 ending 16 years of civil war in the former Portuguese colony.

U.S.-N. Korea talks to resume July 14

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. and North Korean officials will meet in Geneva on July 14 to resume discussion of North Korea's nuclear programmes, the State Department announced. In their most recent talks in New York, which ended on June 11, North Korea agreed to suspend its decision to withdraw from a treaty barring the development of nuclear weapons. But the question of international inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities was left unresolved. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallicci headed the U.S. delegation to the New York talks and will have the same role in Geneva. As before, Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok Chu will lead the North Korean side. In March, the North Koreans said they planned to withdraw from the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. In New York they reversed the decision just before the date when the withdrawal was to have taken effect.

Japan to boost anti-missile system

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan is to strengthen its defence capabilities in response to the threat from a new North Korean long-range missile, but will still have to rely on U.S. protection for some time, government sources said. "Japan is currently unable to defend itself against high-altitude missile attacks," Shigeru Hatayama, chief of the Defence Agency's Defence Bureau admitted recently before a commission of the upper house of the Japanese Diet. This admission of Japan's weakness comes after the successful testing of North Korea's new Nodong-1 missile whose 1,000-kilometre range would enable it to reach western Japan, including Osaka. "The Nodong-1, a development of the Soviet-designed Scud-C, was launched May 29 from a base near Wonsan in southeast North Korea scoring a direct hit on a floating target in Sea of Japan. Japanese government sources said.

Malaysia to acquire MiGs and F-18s

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) — Malaysia said Tuesday it would buy 18 Russian MiG-29 fighters and eight U.S. F/A-18 Hornets to bolster its air force, while insisting it would not alter the military balance in the region. The U.S. embassy here welcomed the decision to purchase the Hornets but analysts said the surprise compromise would give Moscow a significant foothold in South East Asia's lucrative arms market. Defence Minister Najib Tun Razak told a news conference that detailed negotiations with the Mikoyan Design Bureau and McDonnell Douglas, respective manufacturers of the two aircraft, would begin soon. He said the value of the purchase was still subject to negotiations, but defence sources said it could cost at least two billion Malaysian dollars (\$800 million).

Spain's Socialists still seek allies

MADRID (AP) — Spanish lawmakers took their seats in parliament Tuesday, the first time in more than a decade a new legislature opened with the Socialists unable to run the show alone. The Socialists, who have controlled parliament single-handedly since coming to power in 1982, were able to win only 159 of 350 seats in the key lower house of parliament in the June general elections. With Spain facing a plethora of economic woes, the opening of parliament was a brief respite in trying to find legislative allies for his Socialist Party. King Juan Carlos was expected to begin consultations Wednesday with the leaders of several parties with an eye towards asking one of them — almost certainly Mr. Gonzalez — to form a government. Mr. Gonzalez is expected to announce his ministerial choices by mid-July.

Scandal rocks Chinese army

PEKING (AFP) — In a rare disclosure, an official report Tuesday said Chinese authorities had uncovered a massive corruption scandal within the army, with nearly 300 officials already implicated. The scandal involving more than 43 army units at regiment level and above, concerns the illegal sale of falsified papers identifying workers as demobilised soldiers. The Press Digest reported. Demobilised soldiers are given priority in employment and housing, and their status is much sought after. The racket took place in Jinxi, in China's northwestern Liaoning province, and first came to light in April, the official newspaper said. More than three million yuan (\$520,000) in bribes changed hands, according to initial investigations.

Fighting rages as Bosnia presidency discusses partition

SARAJEVO (R) — Muslim troops said they were desperately fighting combined Serb-Croat forces in central Bosnia Tuesday as state leaders arrived in Sarajevo to discuss Serb-Croatian proposals to divide Bosnia into three ethnic semi-autonomous regions.

Lord Owen said earlier he thought the Bosnian presidency could reach a common decision within days on the new confederation plan.

"I would be surprised if they came to a decision today in Sarajevo because they have already organised another meeting in five days' time. I think that is more likely to be the decision making time," he told reporters in Brussels.

He was there for a meeting with Belgian Foreign Affairs Minister Willy Claes. Belgium takes over the presidency of the European Community on July 1 for six months.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) sources said the two mediators had both left Zagreb Airport for force headquarters, where Mr. Stoltenberg planned to meet fellow Swedes and outgoing U.N. Commander-in-Chief General Lars-Erik Wahlgren for a briefing on the war zones.

New scandal hurts Japan's LDP

TOKYO (R) — Japan's scandal-wracked ruling party, facing the real prospect of defeat in July 18 polls, suffered yet another setback Tuesday with the arrest of a conservative regional leader for suspected bribery.

The governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), its popularity almost halved due to widespread public anger over official corruption, stands to lose heavily as a result of the latest scandal development.

State prosecutors were shown on television arresting Sendai Mayor Toru Ishii — known for his close ties to LDP leaders — following reports he allegedly took bribes from four construction firms seeking to win public works projects.

After raiding Sendai City Hall and Tokyo corporate offices, authorities arrested nine suspects — Mr. Ishii, two of his aides, Hamaoka Corp Chairman Shigeru Honda and President Akira Kagami, and four senior executives from Shimizu Corp, Nishimatsu Construction and Mitsui Construction.

Mr. Ishii, 67, will be charged on suspicion of taking 100 million yen (\$945,000) in payoffs from the firms in April 1992 in exchange for promising to help them win the contracts, NHK public television and other media said.

Mr. Ishii, a conservative who won election late last year with backing from the LDP and opposition groups, could have been seeking funds for his election bid, some reports said.

The public works project, worth 100 billion yen (\$945 million) over 10 years, involved redeveloping Sendai's harbour, and building trade and distribution centres.

The latest episode in Japan's political corruption saga puts the spotlight once again on ties between influential politicians and big business.

The LDP's fallen paymaster, Shin Kanemaru, is alleged to have hidden away billions of yen (tens of millions of dollars) in payoffs, mostly from construction firms, in return for political favours. His trial will begin on July 22.

Prosecutors, who refused comment on Tuesday's case in keeping with policy, discovered the Sendai link while checking construction firms for their alleged payoffs to Mr. Kanemaru over the past four months.

"Voters are fed up with corruption... this development will prompt them to switch their support from existing (ruling and opposition) groups to newly emerged parties," said political scientist Rei Shiratori of Tokai University.

Last week LDP rebels, disgusted by their party's failure to clean up the nation's money-driven politics, launched two centrist-right parties — Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) and Shin-Sakigake (Harbinger New Party) — in hopes of winning the support of jaded voters next month.

Polls this week showed support for the LDP, now a minority party in the decision-making lower house, has plunged almost 20 points in two weeks to hover around 20 per cent.



Under sniper fire, British soldiers run from their Warrior armoured vehicle Monday minutes after hitting an anti-tank mine near Zepce. The Warrior, carrying Lt. Col. Alastair Duncan, commander of

the British UNPROFOR troops in central Bosnia, was investigating reports of heavy fighting in the area (AFP photo)

state.

The seven include three pro-government Serbs, three Croats and one Muslim, Fikret Abdic. Late Monday they said they still favoured a single Bosnian state but wanted to discuss some proposals by Lord Owen, including confederation.

Mr. Abdic is tipped as a possible successor if Mr. Izetbegovic is removed.

Diplomats in Geneva said

Serbs and Croats had agreed that a ceasefire in the 15-month war should go into effect if the Muslims sign the plan to form three confederated states.

Serb leader Radovan Karadzic is offering the Muslims 30 per cent of territory, probably around Sarajevo and the northwestern enclave of Bihać but mediators insist Bosnia's majority Muslim people be given enough land to make a viable state.

Haiti talks appear back on track

— diplomats

NEW YORK (R) — Apparent willingness by Haiti's army strongman at least to consider stepping aside saved talks on restoring democracy from collapse, sources close to the negotiations reported.

But roadblocks remain in talks in which the two protagonists, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and General Raoul Cedras, the man who overthrew him in a September 1991 coup, have not even met face-to-face.

Earlier, foreign diplomats on

hand at secluded Governors Island off Manhattan, said Gen. Cedras gave no hint that he would consider stepping down and insisted that he maintain control of the army.

The United States special envoy to the negotiations, Lawrence Pezzullo, then intervened in an attempt to persuade the military chief to show some flexibility.

After the meeting, diplomats said Gen. Cedras seemed willing at least to consider resigning. That indication apparently rescued the talks and prompted the key United Nations mediator, Dante Caputo, to say there was a basis for continuing the negotiations.

"I have just received some indications that allow me to say the negotiations are still going on," Mr. Caputo told reporters as he shuttled between the general's billet and that of Mr. Aristide.

But despite more than seven hours of talks Sunday and Monday between Mr. Caputo and Gen. Cedras, the general apparently was adamant about maintaining other army command in his posts, even if he himself agreed to resign.

"We would never accept a solution that excludes us," one of Gen. Cedras' associates said.

The agenda Gen. Cedras seems unwilling to discuss includes a date for Mr. Aristide's return, the resignation of the army high command, the transfer of power to a democratic government, the deployment of an international police force and the appointment of a new prime minister.

An Aristide adviser, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "we are waiting to see if we have an agenda."

At the weekend ANC Presi-

dent Nelson Mandela rejected

the white-wing demand for

autonomy before black majority

rule.

But the Conservative Party has predicted trouble if right-wing demands are not met.

The black Radical Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) meanwhile has refused to abandon guerrilla war as demanded by the government and other negotiating parties.

Chief government negotiator Roelf Meyer said the PAC's position was unacceptable and he would ask the negotiating council to take steps against the organisation.

Police arrest more S. African rightists

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Sports

After air crash, Zambia mounts new World Cup challenge

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) — Two months after 18 of its top soccer players died in a plane crash, Zambia resumes its bid Sunday for a berth in next year's World Cup.

Morocco plays Zambia at Independence Stadium, where eight weeks ago a funeral was held for the players killed in the April 28 crash.

The 18 players, along with 11 others, died when their Zambian Air Force cargo plane crashed off the coast of Gabon en route to a World Cup qualifying match in Senegal.

Players on the flight had been jubilant after a 3-0 victory over Mauritius in the Africa Cup of Nations.

Earlier wins against Namibia and Madagascar in qualifying rounds brought Zambia closer than ever to reaching the World Cup. In order to advance, Zambia must finish first in a series of games against Morocco and Senegal.

"We are going to beat Morocco and Senegal after that," said Winston Gumbo, chairman of the Football Association of Zambia. "I am feeling very good about our prospects."

Greece overcomes Spain in basketball

BERLIN (AP) — Athanasios Galakatos' 3-point play with two seconds left Monday lifted Greece to a 76-75 victory over previously unbeaten Spain at the European Basketball championship.

Italy, a power in European basketball and the silver medalist in 1991, was eliminated from the tournament after being trounced 95-69 by Russia.

The final two spots in the eight-team field for the finals were wrapped up Monday when Germany beat Turkey 77-64 and Bosnia-Herzegovina slipped past Latvia 102-97.

Despite resting several starters, Croatia breezed past Estonia 98-80 for its sixth win without a loss in the tournament.

Bosnia-Herzegovina's win over Latvia was led by Sabahudin Bilalic with 36 points and Mario Primorac with 25. Both centres have averaged over 28 points-a-game during the tournament.

France eliminated Belgium 83-65. The team has lost only one game — 100-95 in overtime to Croatia.

Russia got 24 points from Sergei Bazarevich and 23 from centre Andrej Fetisow in the win over Italy, which collapsed after leading 48-44 at the half.

The new squad, featuring a few top players who were not on the doomed flight and amateurs drawn from Zambian clubs, has trained and played against top club teams in Denmark.

Kalusha Bwalya, who plays in Europe and was travelling separately in April, said the new squad must overcome the tragedy.

"If we lose or tie against Morocco, we will continue to be under pressure, both inside of us and outside," said Bwalya, a midfielder with the Dutch team PSV Eindhoven. "The earlier the win, the better."

After a week of mourning for the crash victims in soccer-obsessed Zambia, local officials accepted a \$400,000 six-week training and accommodation package in Denmark for the new squad. Coach Freddie Mwila said building the team far from home helped remove pressure.

The Zambians were attached to Broadby, a member of the Danish super league and considered one of the country's best clubs.

The rebuilt Zambian team most lost its first match, 4-1, to Broadby, then gained a 3-3 draw in a rematch before scoring back-

to-back victories against super league teams Lyngby and Silkeborg.

"They have a heavy burden on their shoulders.... The best way to take their thoughts away from the tragedy was by training, training and training," said Eini Bakendorf, a Broadby official.

He said the players quickly adapted to different styles of play used in Europe. International experience came from Bwalya and fellow professional Linus Makwaza.

"They are now playing more thoughtfully, more tactically... they are doing great," Bakendorf said in an interview in Copenhagen. "They are definitely a World Cup team now."

After the Morocco match Sunday, Zambia takes on South Africa on July 11 and Zimbabwe on July 26 in the Africa Cup of Nations competition.

Gumbo said the squad may travel to France or Germany after that for further training before the next World Cup encounter in Senegal Aug. 7.

"Everyone has worked hard and made great sacrifices," he said. "We're back on course for the World Cup."

Lemond's career in question

PARIS (AP) — Greg Lemond made cycling history. Now his career may be history.

The three-time Tour de France champion won't even make it to the starting line this year because of an energy-sapping allergy — the latest in a series of mishaps and failures that have plagued Lemond the last three years and raised questions about his future as a top cyclist.

This season, the 32-year-old American has displayed none of the form that helped him win cycling's most prestigious race in 1986, 1989 and 1990.

Lemond has provided some of the greatest thrills at the Tour de France, including the breathtaking final time trial in 1989 when he edged Frenchman Laurent Fignon by eight seconds, the closest finish in the tour's history.

Later that year, he won the Cycling World Championship for the second time, and the following year he won his third Tour de France. But it's been downhill since then.

In 1991, he suffered from an infection and finished seventh in the tour. Last year, he complained of exhaustion and dropped out in the Alps. After the race, he took some time off from cycling.

"I needed the rest," Lemond said. "I was really burned out. I was shattered physically."

Lemond vowed to come back strong this year. He set up base at his second home in Belgium, brought his family over from Minnesota and commuted to races.

But, he admitted, "when you get older, other things become more important in your life. Cycling is not the No. 1 priority to a cyclist who has a wife and kids."

Instead of climbing back to the top, Lemond dropped out of races on the first climb. He was almost 2½ behind in the Tour of Italy when he finally dropped out in the next-to-last stage.

Lemond suffered stomach aches and dysentery shortly before withdrawing from the Italian race. The press attributed his dismal performance to lack of preparation. Lemond did not comment.

Another try at a low-key race in Southern France found him gasping, 39 minutes behind, after the first climb. That caused him to return to Belgium for further medical tests.

"We knew from the first tests that Greg suffers from a chronic weakness and doesn't recuperate from his efforts," said his team director, Roger LeGeyat.

There was a time when Lemond could ride in top form, day after day, while other cyclists would falter at least once.

It's hard to reconcile those memories with the cyclist who struggled up a mountain last July, far behind the main group. Lemond slowly coasted to a stop, tried to avoid pursuing photographers, and escaped to the safety of his team car, looking exhausted and beaten.

At the time, it seemed his career might be over. Now, it may be.

Penalty-saving king recalls feats

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (R) — Argentina's penalty-saving king Sergio Goycochea recalled memories of his 1990 World Cup-winning side, broke his leg in a collision with a team mate and Goycochea weathered a Soviet storm before his side settled down and went on to win 2-0.

After helping struggling Argentina to a surprise second round 1-0 win over Brazil in Turin, Goycochea save two penalties in a quarter-final shoot-out against Yugoslavia after a 0-0 draw in Florence.

Goycochea, who has never lost a shoot-out playing for his country, said that his save from Bojaideiro Sunday was possibly his best.

"The Brazilian players are the most difficult (to face), at least on paper," he said.

Goycochea, who turns 30 in October, is returning to his first club River Plate next season from Olimpo of Paraguay.

He has saved eight penalties for Argentina, seven in shoot-outs, in 30 internationals.

NBA draft

Orlando Magic gears up for No. 1 choice

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan (AP) — Every year it's the same story: Big men get chosen first in the NBA draft.

This year, it'll be the same story. The only question is this: Will it be a big man or a giant one?

Barring a trade, the answer will be provided by the Orlando Magic Wednesday night at the Palace. Their top two choices are believed to be Chris Webber, a 6-foot-9 (2.1-metre) power forward from Michigan, and Shawn Bradley, a 7-6 (2.3-metre) centre from Brigham Young, a longshot could be Jamal Mashburn, a 6-8 (2-metre) forward from Kentucky.

Since 1966, only five guards have been selected with the No. 1 overall pick in the NBA draft. Magic Johnson was the last, in 1979, when he left Michigan State early.

This year, the draft is top-heavy with size, but some of the best players are guards.

Billy McKinney, the director of player personnel for the Detroit Pistons, has 13 players on his short list. Seven of them are guards.

"People are saying that this year's draft crop isn't as good as the bunch from last year," McKinney said. "But I think it's maybe unfair to compare this year with last year. There were so many players last year."

Picking behind Orlando are the Philadelphia 76ers and the Golden State Warriors. The Sixers have already declared their intention to choose Bradley if he's available. Otherwise they'll choose Webber.

Golden State would love to have Bradley, but they'll probably have to choose between Mashburn and guard Anfernee Hardaway of Memphis State.

After that, a lot of teams will begin looking harder at the guards.

They include Hardaway, Duke's Bobby Hurley, UNLV's J.R. Rider, Seton Hall's Terry Dehere, Tennessee's Allan Houston, Jackson State's Lindsey Hunter and Alabama's James Robinson.

The best-known among the guards, of course, is Hurley. He led Duke to three NCAA final four appearances and two national titles.

"He's the best point guard of all the seniors," Washington Bullet's general manager John Nash said. "Hurley shows terrific leadership, determination and poise."

The Pistons like Hurley, too. They're just not sure he'll still be available when their turn comes at Nos. 10 and 11.

"He surpassed Dennis Rodman in some of the strength and conditioning workouts," McKinney said. "That's quite an accomplishment."

Probably the best guard in the draft is the flamboyant Hardaway, the biggest and flashiest point guard since Magic Johnson.

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Israeli troops given licence to kill, rights group says

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An international human rights group Tuesday accused Israeli leaders of giving undercover units of the security forces "a licence to kill" that has led to the deaths of at least 120 Palestinians.

"The fact that undercover units affect many arrests or that they sometimes face mortal danger, cannot excuse their resort to murder in other cases," said the U.S.-based monitoring group Middle East Watch.

"The unjustified killings for which they are responsible are not aberrations, but rather constitute a pattern that could only continue with the complicity of the Israeli government."

Middle East Watch's 157-page report, entitled "A Licence to Kill," said at least 120 Palestinians had been killed by squads operating in disguise since the revolt against Israeli rule of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

It said about half of those had died since the beginning of 1992, with more than 30 Palestinians killed by the squads since Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin took office last July. Mr. Rabin had established the squads while defence minister in 1988, but kept their existence secret.

Elite undercover units take part in "premeditated assassinations" and "summary executions," Middle East Watch director Kenneth Roth said:

In the report, which urges the United States to tie aid to Israel to human rights, the group found from examination of the killings of 20 Palestinians last year and at

the start of 1993 "a pattern of unjustified lethal force by special units."

The forces, routinely disguised as Palestinian civilians, are bound by law enforcement rules as same as police that require minimum use of force unless facing mortal danger.

"But they violate both Israeli and international law," Mr. Roth told a press conference.

"The military command gives the special units licence to behave as if they were engaged in a military conflict, using tactics such as shooting to kill and shooting on sight," said the report.

The group, a division of Human Rights Watch, said only a minority of those killed were wanted.

"Most... are suspected stone-throwers and youths wearing masks whose identities are not known... but who are routinely shot while posing no imminent mortal danger to the soldiers or others."

Out of the 20 documented killings, just two men were carrying firearms and four wanted. In only one case did the army claim that a Palestinian tried to shoot before being killed, Middle East Watch alleged. Seven of the 20 were under 16 years old.

The group interviewed five soldiers, one of whom, identified as Sergeant A and formerly of an elite combat unit, told of shoot-to-kill ambushes. He detailed a briefing in which an officer said the objective was to "stick" a Palestinian, using Hebrew army slang for kill.

The Israeli army issued a denial of the charges, terming the title of the study "maliciously misleading" and totally untrue."

The report by Middle East Watch is the latest in a stream of charges by human rights groups that Israel has a shoot-to-kill policy.

"In many cases, the victims posed little or no grave danger to others, were given no opportunity to surrender and could in all probability have been captured alive," said the report.

"At least one case, security force agents executed their victim after he was in de facto custody, this is when he was posing no threat and has no real possibility of escaping."

Under Israeli rules, soldiers are supposed to shout a warning, fire in the air and only then shoot at legs of fleeing Palestinians. Detailed regulations have not been released.

Middle East Watch said the regulations had allowed soldiers to shoot dead hundreds of Palestinians during the five years of clashes but focused on the undercover units, which it said had even "targeted individual Palestinians for assassination."

"We are aware of only one court-martial resulting from the 17 cases presented in this report in which we believe there was unjust killing by soldiers," it said.

"Even in that single case, the light punishment sent the wrong signal: A partially suspended sentence and only three months behind bars for shooting a 12-year-old boy in the back."



COMRADES-IN-ARMS: Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat and South African leader Nelson Mandela huddle together Tuesday during the Organisation of African Unity summit in Cairo (AFP photo)

'Ambiguity' of press law sparks dispute

By Sawsan Ghosheh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Controversy over the interpretation of articles in the six-week old Press and Publication Law have already risen to the surface. The ambiguity of some of the articles has in this short period of time led to a confrontation between journalists and the Department of Press and Publications (DPP), the primary publication-monitoring institution in Jordan.

Director of the DPP Issa Al Jahmani, in a letter to the editor-in-chief of "Al Ahali" weekly newspaper issued by the Jordanian Democratic People's Party (JDPP), stressed the need to abide by the Press and Publication Law. This letter came as a result of what Mr. Jahmani described as a violation of the law by the newspaper, referring to three articles published in its June 21 issue.

The first and most critical article, entitled "Flowers of the Intelligence Service," spoke sarcastically about the increasing vegetation surrounding the intelligence service (Mukhabarat) building implying that the beautiful site one sees on the outside is not similar to the treatment one witnesses on the inside.

What upset Mr. Jahmani most regarding the article was the presence of seven words, "It's built from marble on the outside..." — the first half a

famous Arabic proverb which ends with "and it's full with dirt on the inside."

The other two articles, which Mr. Jahmani at first criticised but later downplayed, addressed the problem in the Press and Publication Law and the imprisonment of a significant number of alleged Islamists without trial. According to Mr. Jahmani, the articles "damage" the reputation of the "security apparatus" because they are implicitly suggesting that the intelligence service bypasses the law and tortures prisoners.

"This is a defamation of our security apparatus," said Mr. Jahmani. "It is purely a legal matter," he maintained, basing his argument on Article 40 (Chapter 2) of the Press and Publication Law, which prohibits the publication of any material that "harms the security apparatus."

"This is only a notice," he said alluding to the letter. "If this is repeated again the DPP might take Al Ahali to court... in a democracy the judiciary system is the final arbitrator."

Nihad Abu Ghosh, an editor at the newspaper and a leading member of the JDPP, said: "The reasons given by Mr. Jahmani are not the main reasons behind the notice. Our party and newspaper's position on some issues do not go well with some people and that is the main reason for this warning."

Although the JDPP did not

support the passing of the Press and Publication Law, Mr. Abu Ghosh reaffirms the newspaper's commitment to the law.

"We did not violate the law," he said, explaining that the ambiguity of the law allows for people to interpret it in different ways. "Who decides what harms the security apparatus and what does not?" Mr. Abu Ghosh exclaimed. He stressed that what is important is the spirit of the law and the essence of democracy and not the ambiguous articles of the law.

When asked if Al Ahali will change its policy as a result of the warning, he stressed that the newspaper "will continue to fight to achieve freedom and human rights. Nothing will change."

"Now that the law is being applied, its problems are becoming more and more visible," said Salim Al Zoubi, member of the Lower House of Parliament, when asked to comment about the incident.

Mr. Zoubi, a lawyer, mentioned that he was among the parliamentarians who opposed Article 40 in the Press and Publication Law, but was not successful in revoking it.

Such an article leaves it open for those in power to interpret it the way they please and to their benefit," he stated. "In such cases it needs to be left up to the judicial system to determine whether it is the role of journalists to tell the truth and criticise the wrong or not."

Tension runs high in Iraq amid fears

(Continued from page 1)
on Monday night on Cable News Network.

The U.S. aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt sailed on the Red Sea to take part in enforcing a ban on Iraqi flights in southern Iraq, witnesses said.

In other related developments: One of the conservative Russian parliament's two chambers protested Tuesday against the U.S. raid on Iraq which President Boris Yeltsin's government has strongly backed.

The other, the Council of Nationalities, looked likely to protest Wednesday. A resolution passed overwhelmingly by the Council of the Republic said the U.S. action "contradicts international law and revives the cult of force in international relations."

Russian Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi denounced the U.S. strike on Iraq as immoral and blasted the Russian foreign ministry for supporting it.

Mr. Rutskoi said it could only be regretted that Russia had been among the first to approve of this "illegal" action, without consulting parliament.

"Once again Russia, thanks to the efforts of the radical-democrats, is bobbing along in the wake of U.S. policy, ignoring not only its own national interests but also renouncing any idea of morality or decency in foreign

policy."

Polish President Lech Wałęsa criticised the U.S. raid and suggested Washington was taking on the role of "world policeman."

The Dalai Lama criticised the U.S. attack as "very, very unfortunate." He said he wished America could have found less violent ways to increase pressure on Baghdad.

The exiled Tibetan head of state and spiritual leader also said it was "a bit unfair" to blame the Iraqi president for all of Iraq's aggression and international defiance.

"My heart went a little bit towards him.... Saddam Hussein's dictatorship did not come out from sky by himself, but many nations were involved to create that situation. Without his army, without his weapons, Saddam Hussein as one single person cannot be a dictator," he said.

— Iraqi opposition leaders in exile criticised the U.S. attack for civilian deaths it caused and stressed that the real goal remained the overthrow of President Saddam.

Mohammad Taqi Modaresi, head of the Islamic Action Organisation, charged in a statement issued in Damascus that Sunday's missile strike on Iraqi intelligence headquarters in downtown Baghdad "avoided targeting the real criminal (Saddam) in order to

punish the country and its oppressed people."

"It is necessary to get rid of Saddam Hussein to end the suffering of the Iraqi people," Mr. Modaresi added.

In another statement here, Al Daarwa, the oldest opposition force, said: "The American action has an unjustifiable reprisal strike against Iraq and the Iraqi people, who suffer at the hands of both Saddam Hussein and Americans."

Americans backed President Clinton's decision to bomb Iraq's intelligence headquarters by nearly a four-to-one margin and his popularity rose sharply after the weekend attack, an opinion poll said.

The CBS News/New York Times survey found that 66 per cent of those polled said they supported the attack on Baghdad, while just 17 per cent said they opposed it.

The survey, done in two stages, also found that Mr. Clinton's overall approval rating was boosted by 46 per cent disapproving.

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COMRADES-IN-ARMS: Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat and South African leader Nelson Mandela huddle together Tuesday during the Organisation of African Unity summit in Cairo (AFP photo)

Security Council warns Iraq on border

Washington 'favours' Saddam's departure

Media 'misled'

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The State Department said Monday that the shroud of secrecy surrounding the U.S. missile strike on Baghdad made her unintentionally mislead the press.

The statement came in response to journalists' questions about whether any hope remained for the Iraqi leader's "redemption" in the wake of Sunday's cruise missile strike on the Iraqi intelligence services headquarters on Iraq's intelligence command centre that was launched later that day.

The action was taken the day after the United States presented evidence that it said proved Iraq plotted to kill former President George Bush. U.N. officials say that plot justified the missile attack on Baghdad.

The council took no action on the U.S.-Iraq confrontation, ignoring Iraq's protest that the missile attack was an act of U.S. aggression.

The council, however, has turned its attention to other issues of Iraq's compliance with the Gulf war ceasefire agreement.

Iraq in a June 6 letter protested the location of a U.N. boundary set under the ceasefire giving Kuwait half of the strategic Khor Abdullah, Iraq's only outlet to the Gulf. Iraq previously controlled the entire waterway.

Iraq said the boundary commission's mandate did not include the waterway and complained that the new boundary virtually landlocked Iraq.

But the council in a statement said Iraq must respect the boundary.

The council wishes to stress to Iraq the inviolability of the international boundary between Iraq and Kuwait... and the serious consequences that would ensue from any breach thereof," said the statement, read aloud by the council president, Juan Antonio Yanez-Barmeno, the ambassador of Spain who heads the council this month.

The Iraqi protest said Iraq has spent billions of dollars over the years on channels, navigation lanes and ports in the Khor Abdullah.

"The imposition of the boundary presents a grave threat to Iraq's right to enjoy freedom of access to the sea by exercising its historic right to unrestricted and safe navigation in the area," he said.

He repeated Iraq's rejection of the boundary commission, saying its actions "represent a purely political decision imposed by the powers dominating the Security Council and the U.N., particularly the United States and the United Kingdom."

The dispute over the boundary commission is "only one of various issues between Iraq and the United Nations. Others include Iraq's refusal to permit long-term monitoring cameras at missile sites and to divulge its complete list of foreign suppliers to its prohibited weapons programmes."

A U.N. spokesman Bahrain said U.N. experts charged with Iraq's disarmament resumed work Monday after a one-day interruption caused by the U.S. missile strike on Baghdad.

Russian expert Nikita Smidovich remained in Iraq awaiting Baghdad's approval to install surveillance cameras at missile test sites.

The Security Council has warned of "serious consequences" if Iraq rejects the installation of the cameras.

Clinton's warning

President Bill Clinton warned Monday that he would not hesitate to retaliate again if Iraq continues violence or state-sponsored "terrorism" against the United States.

The JPA also demanded that government do not accredit any Arab national as a journalist in Jordan without first obtaining the approval of its board.

Minister of Information Ma'an Abu Nowar said he would not comment on these demands until the JPA officially asks the minis-

try to implement them.

However, these "demands would have to be studied from the legal, constitutional and political perspectives," Dr. Abu Nowar told the Jordan Times Tuesday.

During a meeting with JPA board on June 18, Dr. Abu Nowar said the association was directly responsible for ensuring that journalists abide by the law.

"You... (have) a direct responsibility to ensure that (journalists) abide by the law in which you have full authority to defend the interests of the country and the freedom of the press," Dr. Abu Nowar told JPA board.

The journalists, mainly foreign correspondents who are not members of the JPA, do not, however, expect the government to implement the "drastic measures" demanded by the association.

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"I have been working as a journalist for 10 years. The JPA cannot consider me a trainee for a year after I apply to join it," said Mr. Ne'mat.

Besides, he said, it is the news organisation that employs the journalist which has the right to decide whether one is qualified to be a journalist or not. "I am not applying for a job with the JPA," he said.

"Our choices is either to comply (with the law) or suffer the consequences," said Mr. Ne'mat. In his case, he said, he would take the risk.

Mr. Ne'mat said non-JPA member journalists would not abide by the JPA demands without first launching a legal battle against them.

"The press and publications law is the law of the country. I cannot but comply (with it) unless I raise a case in court," he said.

Such a case, however, seems like a losing one.

"If the law says journalists must be members of the JPA then they have to abide by it," said prominent Jordanian lawyer Ibrahim Bakr. That, he said, applies to both permanent and temporary law.

Non-JPA members, however, are determined to take their battle to the end.

If government heeds JPA demands and a court of law rules against them, they will appeal the ruling